

JAN 19 2007

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

For The Northern Mariana Islands
By _____
(Deputy Clerk)

LISA S. BLACK,) CIVIL ACTION NO. 05-0038
)
Plaintiff,)
) *ARM*
vs.) ~~{PLAINTIFF'S PROPOSED}~~
) FINAL PRETRIAL ORDER
JIM BREWER, individually and in his)
official capacity as Acting Principal for)
Hopwood Junior High School,)
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN)
MARIANA ISLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOL)
SYSTEM, and JOHN AND/OR JANE DOE,)
)
Defendants.)

Plaintiff Lisa Black by and through counsel, pursuant to Local Rule 16.2CJ.e.9, having attempted to resolve disagreements with Defendants regarding the language of Section "c" ("List of Issues To Be Tried") and been unable to do so, hereby submits her Proposed Final Pre-trial Order, as follows:

a. Firm trial date: February 20, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

b. Stipulated and uncontroverted facts:

1. Plaintiff Lisa Black ("Ms. Black") is a citizen of the United States and, at the time of the events giving rise to this action, was a resident of the CNMI.

1 2. Defendant Jim Brewer is a citizen of the United States and, at the time of the
2 events giving rise to this suit occurred, was a resident of the CNMI.

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4 3. Defendant Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Public School
5 System ("PSS") is a non-profit corporation organized pursuant to CNMI statute with its
6 principal place of business in the CNMI. PSS is charged with maintaining and operating all of
7 the CNMI's public schools to include Hopwood Junior High School ("Hopwood"). PSS was
8 Mr. Brewer's employer and therefore responsible for his supervision.
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11 4. In or about March of 2003, Ms. Black began working as a teacher at Hopwood.
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14 5. During the entire tenure of Ms. Black's employment as a classroom teacher at
15 Hopwood, Mr. Brewer was the Principal of Hopwood. As Principal, Mr. Brewer had primary
16 authority to recommend hiring, non-renewal and termination of classroom teachers.
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18 6. Between the beginning of Ms. Black's tenure at Hopwood and October 6, 2004,
19 members of the Hopwood faculty and staff became concerned with the qualifications and
20 competence of Ms. Beth Nepaial the Vice Principal of Hopwood ("Ms. Nepaial"). Because of
21 these concerns, several members of the staff and faculty participated in the drafting of a "letter
22 of concern" ("the Letter").
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1 7. On October 6, 2004, the Letter was delivered to the administration of PSS and
2 the Commonwealth's Board of Education. Upon receipt of this letter, the aforementioned
3 contacted Mr. Brewer and tasked him with investigating these concerns.
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6 8. On April 25, 2005, Ms. Black received notice that her contract of employment
7 would not be renewed.
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9 9. In April of 2006, Ms. Black left the Commonwealth to accept a teaching position
10 in Morocco.
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13 c. List of issues to be tried:

14 1. Relevant to Plaintiff's Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress claim:

15 a. Did Defendants engage in conduct that was extreme and outrageous?

16 b. If so, did this conduct, either intentionally or recklessly, cause severe
17 emotional distress to the Plaintiff?

18 c. If so, in what amount should Plaintiff be compensated for any severe
19 emotional distress caused, either intentionally or recklessly, by Defendants'
20 outrageous conduct?
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22 d. If Defendants did engage in conduct that was extreme and outrageous, and if
23 this conduct, either intentionally or recklessly, resulted in severe emotional
24 distress, did this cause physical harm to the Plaintiff?
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- 1 e. If so, in what amount should Plaintiff be compensated for physical harm
2 caused by the severe emotional distress caused, either intentionally or
3 recklessly, by Defendants' extreme and outrageous conduct?
4
5 f. To what amount, if any, are Defendants liable to Plaintiff for punitive
6 damages if they did engage in extreme and outrageous conduct that caused,
7 either intentionally or recklessly, severe emotional distress and/or physical
8 harm to Plaintiff?
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10 2. Relevant to Plaintiff's Violation of rights guaranteed by the CNMI Constitution:

- 11 a. Did Defendants make any charge against Plaintiff that might seriously
12 damage her standing and associations in the community?
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14 b. If so, to what amount, if any, are Defendants liable to Plaintiff for failing to
15 afford due process prior to making any charge against Plaintiff that might
16 seriously damage her standing and associations in the community?
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18 c. Did Defendants impose a stigma or other disability upon Plaintiff that
19 foreclosed her freedom to take advantage of other employment
20 opportunities?
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22 d. If so, to what amount, if any, are Defendants liable to Plaintiff for failing to
23 afford due process prior^{to} imposing a stigma or other disability upon Plaintiff
24 that foreclosed her freedom to take advantage of other employment
25 opportunities?
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27 d. Disclosure of all witnesses:
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1 The Parties shall have until January 23, 2007, to exchange their final witness lists. The
2 Parties shall then have until February 7, 2007 to file in limine motions to exclude any witnesses
3 from testifying.
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6 e. Listing and exchange of copies of all exhibits:

7 The parties shall exchange their exhibits and file a list of exhibits with the Court by
8 January 23, 2007. The parties shall have until February 6, 2007, to file objections to the exhibit
9 lists submitted. The failure to state an objection to an exhibit by February 6, 2007, shall act as
10 a waiver of objections to its admissibility into evidence at trial.
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13 f. Pretrial rulings, where possible, on objections to evidence:

14 Not applicable at this time, but Parties anticipate filing certain in limine motions.
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16 g. Disposition of all outstanding motions:

17 Presently Plaintiff has outstanding a Motion To Amend her Complaint. Defendants
18 have a Motion To Dismiss for want of jurisdiction outstanding.
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21 h. Elimination of unnecessary or redundant proof, including limitations on expert
22 witnesses:

23 Parties reserve the right to file in limine motions.
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25 i. Itemized statements of all damages by all parties:
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3 IT IS SO ORDERED,
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5 Date: 1-19-07
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10 Judge Alex Munson
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